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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE OF HEBREW.

At the annual meeting of the Institute of Hebrew held December 30, 1886, in the Union Theological Seminary, New York City, N. Y., some matters of particular interest were discussed. There is given below an abstract of some of the business transacted.

Profs. Paul Haupt, Ph. D., of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., and Hermann V. Hilprecht, Ph. D., of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., were elected members of the Institute.

The name of the organization was changed from "The Institute of Hebrew" to "The American Institute of Hebrew."

The Treasurer was authorized to close the books for the present year on December 1st, instead of January 1st, in order that sufficient time might be given for reports.

The Principal was authorized to offer free tuition in the northern Summer Schools, Chicago, New England, and Philadelphia, in case he shall be able to secure the sum of \$1,000 in addition to the regular contributions to the endowment fund.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Executive Committee: Geo. E. Day, D. D., President, New Haven, Conn.; Francis Brown, Ph. D., Vice-President, 1200 Park Ave., New York City, N. Y.; John P. Peters, Ph. D., Secretary, 4408 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.; Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., Treasurer and Principal of Schools, New Haven, Conn.; Charles R. Brown, Newton Centre, Mass.; D. G. Lyon, Ph. D., Cambridge, Mass.; John G. Lansing, D. D., New Brunswick, N. J.

The following Committees on the special work were appointed:

For the Philadelphia School,—Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., New Haven, Conn., Jno. P. Peters, Ph. D., Philadelphia, Pa., F. A. Gast, Lancaster, Pa., John G. Lansing, D. D., New Brunswick, New Jersey, Wm. H. Green, D. D., Princeton, New Jersey, B. C. Taylor, M. A., Chester, Pa., W. W. Lovejoy, Philadelphia, Pa.

For the Chicago School,—Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., New Haven, Conn., E. L. Curtis, Ph. D., Chicago, Ill., M. S. Terry, D. D., Evanston, Ill., Samuel Ives Curtiss, D. D., Chicago, Ill., Wm. G. Ballantine, D. D., Oberlin, Ohio, H. P. Smith, D. D., Cincinnati, Ohio, R. D. Wilson, Ph. D., Allegheny, Pa.

For the New England School,—Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., New Haven, Conn., C. R. Brown, Newton Centre, Mass., D. G. Lyon, Ph. D., Cambridge, Mass., H. G. Mitchell, Ph. D., Boston, Mass., F. B. Denio, M. A., Bangor, Me., E. C. Bissell, D. D., Hartford, Conn., J. P. Taylor, Ph. D., Andover, Mass.

For the Southern School,—Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., New Haven, Conn., W. W. Moore, D. D., Hampden Sidney, Va., Basil Manly, D. D., Louisville, Ky., J. Packard, D. D., Alexandria, Va., J. R. Sampey, Louisville, Ky., R. V. Foster, D. D., Lebanon, Tenn.

For the Correspondence School,—Wm. R. Harper, Ph. D., New Haven, Conn., Geo. E. Day, D. D., New Haven, Conn., C. R. Brown, Newton Centre, Mass.

It was voted to change the name "Fellow of the Institute of Hebrew" to "Associate Member of the Institute of Hebrew." Examinations will be held therefore for Associate Memberships instead of for Fellowships. It was also decided that the examination of candidates for Associate Memberships should be both oral and written. The oral examinations to be conducted at the Summer Schools by the Instructors of the Schools. The written examinations to be conducted by the Principal, and the papers to be transmitted by him to the Executive Committee.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the vote of the Institute instructing him "to correspond with the faculties of colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, urging the importance of introducing Hebrew among the courses of study," he prepared a circular, and shortly before the period of annual commencements and trustee meetings caused this letter, together with an article reprinted from THE OLD TESTAMENT STUDENT for that purpose, to be sent to the presidents of 250 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. This led, in several cases, to further correspondence, and in October the Secretary prepared and sent to fifty colleges and universities in the United States cards of inquiry, to ascertain to what extent instruction in Hebrew is actually offered in our leading institutions. Allegheny, Amherst, Columbia, Dickinson, Harvard, Kenyon, North-Western University, Oberlin, Ohio Wesleyan University, University of the City of New York, Olivet, Randolph, Macon, Syracuse University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, William Jewell and Yale reported an elective in Hebrew. The following reported its introduction this year, in some cases in answer to the circular sent out:—Columbia, Kenyon, Oberlin, University of the City of New York, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale. Washington and Jefferson offer Hebrew in some years, but not in all. The following reported Hebrew as an optional or extra study for from twenty to forty exercises in all:—Emory, Rutgers, St. Stephens, Simpson, and Trinity. Dartmouth and Wisson made no reply; but in 1883 both reported such an optional. Princeton has taken steps toward the establishment in the college department of a chair in Semitic languages, and the introduction of a Hebrew elective. Beloit, Franklin, and Marshall, University of Michigan, University of the South, University of Tennessee, University of Wooster and Williams reported themselves as looking in the same direction. Johns Hopkins reported the probable extension of Hebrew downward to the underground course. Only Cornell reported retrogression, having ceased to give instruction in any Semitic language.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Institute:

Whereas, largely owing to the work of this Institute, Hebrew has been introduced into the curriculum of not a few of our principal colleges and universities: and,

Whereas, to students unable to avail themselves of the opportunities offered by such colleges and universities, this Institute affords through its Correspondence and Summer Schools, opportunities to acquire the rudiments of the Hebrew language; therefore,

RESOLVED: that in the opinion of the Institute it is desirable that theological schools should earnestly recommend to all who have theological study in view, that they master the elements of Hebrew, either in college or in the schools of the Institute, before entering the seminary or divinity school;

RESOLVED: that in the opinion of the Institute it is desirable that theological schools should endeavor to provide for the proper instruction of students who come already grounded in Hebrew.

The substance of the special reports of the committees of the several Schools is contained in the Principal's Report. Action was taken looking to greater uniformity in these reports, and to a clearer presentation of the details of the work.

It was the general feeling of those present at the meeting, that a great advance had been made already, and that the results of the work were even more than could have been expected at so early a date. It was believed that the friends of Hebrew and Old Testament study have reason to be encouraged because of the bright outlook which seems to exist for such studies.